FINAL

PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT VEGETATION TREATMENTS USING HERBICIDES ON BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LANDS IN 17 WESTERN STATES

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LEAD AGENCY: U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

Washington Office, Washington, D.C.

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, PROJECT LOCATION:

Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma,

Oregon, Texas, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and

Wyoming

COMMENTS ON THIS FINAL PROGRAMMATIC

EIS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

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DATE FINAL PROGRAMMATIC EIS FILED WITH THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

AGENCY:

June 29, 2007

DATE BY WHICH COMMENTS MUST BE POSTMARKED TO THE BLM:

July 30, 2007

ABSTRACT

This Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) analyzes the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with the Bureau of Land Management's use of herbicides on the human and natural environment. An accompanying Final Programmatic Environmental Report (PER) discloses the potential impacts to vegetation and the environment from utilization of non-herbicide treatment techniques, including, but not limited to, fire, mechanical, manual, and biological control methods. Together, herbicide and non-herbicide treatments make up the integrated pest management program that the BLM would apply to approximately 6 million acres annually of public lands in 17 western U.S. states, including Alaska. Alternatives analyzed in the PEIS include the No Action Alternative, or continuation of present management, as outlined in four previous EISs dating from 1986 to 1992. In addition, four action alternatives were evaluated: 1) the Preferred Alternative, which includes herbicide treatments on about 932,000 acres annually and adoption of four new herbicides for use on public lands; 2) a no herbicide use alternative; 3) a no aerial spraying alternative; and 4) an alternative that would limit herbicide use to non-acetolactate synthase-inhibiting active ingredients.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL FOR PEIS: **Bud Cribley**

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